

App. 10/784,462  
Preliminary Amendment dated October 30, 2007

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1 to 97 remain in the application. Claims 1 to 6, 10 to 21, 24 to 29, 40 to 60, 65 to 67, 70 to 72, 75 to 77, 80 to 82, 85 to 87, 90 to 92, and 95 to 97 are subject to examination. Claims 1, 15, 16, 20, 21, and 41 to 46 have been amended. Claims 7 to 9, 22, 23, 30 to 39, 61 to 64, 68, 69, 73, 74, 78, 79, 83, 84, 88, 89, 93, 94, 98 to 109 have been withdrawn from examination.

Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to even more clearly define the features of the invention. The specification at page 35 describes what applicants refer to as "reverse-mirror symmetrical," which wording now appears in the last clause of the claims. No new matter has been added.

Claim 16 includes features relating to the extremities of the longitudinal support member. As described on page 37, for example, the ends are looped, which wording now appears in the last clause of the claim. No new matter has been added.

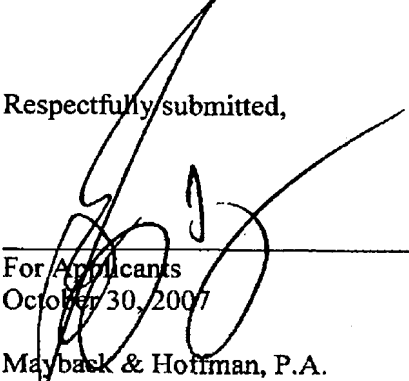
Claim 20 includes features relating to the end points of the longitudinal support member. As described on pages 35 and 37 to 38, for example, the ends are between one inner stent of a last pair and at least the outer stent of an opposing pair of stents on the other end of the stent graft, which wording is now in the claim. No new matter has been added.

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Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 during the pendency of this application to the Deposit Account of Mayback & Hoffman, P.A., No. 503,836.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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For Applicants  
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